

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes from the Fort Detrick Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting
June 11, 2003

1. Index of Minutes

Items addressed at the meeting are listed below, with corresponding section numbers indicated in the column on the right.

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2. Meeting Opening

Lieutenant Colonel Archibald convened the meeting at 7:40 p.m., on Wednesday, June 11, 2003 in Conference Room 3, 810 Schreider Street, Fort Detrick, Maryland.

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3. Attendance

Members Present:

Colonel John Ball, Commander, US Army Garrison, Fort Detrick
Lieutenant Colonel Donald Archibald, P.E., Director, Safety, Environment, and Integrated Planning Office (SEIPO), Installation Co-Chairman
Mr. Michael Kurtianyk, Community Member
Mr. Thomas Meyer, Project Manager, US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District
Mr. Joe Gortva, Environmental Restoration Manager, SEIPO
Ms. Gyla Crutchfield, Analytical Services, Inc. (Recording Secretary)

Others Present:

Mr. Vincent Ceci, AKORN Consulting
Mr. Robert Craig, Safety, Environment, and Integrated Planning Office (SEIPO)
Mr. Chuck Dasey, Public Affairs Officer, HQ USAMRMC
Mr. Michel Griben, Science & Technology Consulting Group
Mr. David Iseri, Shaw Environmental
Mr. William Kahl, Maryland Department of the Environment
Mr. Clint Kneten, US Army Corps of Engineers
Mr. Gary Pauly, Local Resident
Mr. Jim Richmond, Maryland Department of Environment
Mr. Bruce Ware, US Army Corps of Engineers

Members Absent:

Ms. Helen Alexander, Community Member
Mr. Larry Bohn, Frederick County Health Department
Mr. Charles Billups, Ph.D., Community Member
Mr. William Effland, Ph.D., Community Member
Mr. Michael Gresalfi, Community Member
Ms. Helen Miller-Scott, Community Member
Mr. Paul Offutt, Program Manager, Frederick County Health Department
Mr. Dennis Orenshaw, US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Region III
Mr. Daniel Patton, Safety and Loss Control Manager, City of Frederick
Ms. Linda Robinson, Community Member
Mr. Douglas Scarborough, Restoration Oversight Manager, US Army Environmental Center
Mr. Stewart Taylor, Community Member
Mr. Gerald P. Toomey, Community Co-Chairman
Mr. Craig Toussaint, Community Member
Mr. Thomas Wade, Community Member

4. Opening Remarks and Introductions

Installation Co-Chairman, Lieutenant Colonel Donald Archibald welcomed everyone to the meeting. He assured everyone that the recent media coverage in the Washington Post and both local and national television was, for the most part, accurate. However, any implications of the remediation being conducted at Fort Detrick having links to the production of weapons of mass destruction or the draining of the pond connected with the anthrax investigation were not accurate. Any questions regarding the coverage should be directed to Mr. Chuck Dasey who would have appropriate individuals provide a response.

Lieutenant Colonel Archibald continued with a summary of the most recent remediation activities with Pit 2, to include completion of excavation pending sampling results.

5. Area B-11 Status

A Fort Detrick Remedial Investigation (RI)/Feasibility Study (FS) handout (Enclosure 1) was provided.

Mr. Tom Meyer began by updating the number of accident-free days to 835. During the excavation of Pit 1, 2,005 tons of waste and contaminated soil (112 rollofs) were removed. Found within this material were 52 cylinders, 113 vials, and 20 small containers having contents. Also removed were more than forty 55-gallon drums. Following completion of excavation the structure and equipment were decontaminated and moved. Biological wipe samples collected confirmed no pathogenic bacteria remained. Pit 1 was then backfilled with the scheduled hydro-seeding to be performed upon the completion of the remaining pits. The mobilization to Pits 2, 3, and 4 began March 21, 2003.

Mr. Meyer continued the presentation with a status report regarding Pits 2, 3 and 4. Overburden from the pits were removed during the period May 8 – 30, 2003 followed by excavation of the waste materials beginning on June 2. Up to this point, wastes recovered include:

- Small glass containers
- Plastic
- Glass
- Medical waste
- Metal fragments
- One small amber colored bottle
- Eight intact cylinders of various sizes (all since cataloged and secured)
- One broken vial (bleached and destroyed)

As of June 9, approximately 272 tons of soil have been loaded into sixteen roll-off boxes. Eight non-hazardous roll-offs were disposed of at the Fort Detrick landfill and eight other roll-offs were taken off-site for disposal. Approximately 1,500 tons of soil is to be excavated from Pits 2,

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3, and 4. Completion of excavation is expected by December 2003 after which decontamination and backfill will be performed no later than March 2004. Essentially complete, Pit 2 was excavated to a depth of nine feet. The smallest of the pits, Pit 2 contained cylinders and metal debris. Currently, Pits 3 and 4 are excavated to a depth of three feet which is mainly the overburden.

Mr. Meyer advised the Army has fully funded the project for FY03 enabling project completion without crossing over contract years.

6. Area A Update

Continuing the presentation with an update for Area A, Mr. Meyer advised the results of a June 3 sampling would not be available until the August board meeting. Previous samplings indicated no contaminants higher than the MCL. Upon inquiry, Mr. Meyer advised the long-term monitoring data has been collected for approximately one year. Lieutenant Colonel Archibald added the long-standing drought followed by the significant amount of rain recently received, increases the difficulty in determining the geohydrology. He also stated the monitoring process serves a dual purpose in regulatory requirements, and providing flow data for both on and off the installation.

7. Area B Update

A background study is expected to be completed in August. Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) for Pits 1, 2, 3, and 4 are awaiting final Army signature and additional site evaluations for Close-Out documents are being conducted. The semi-annual monitoring was completed June 2, 2003. Planned activities include periodic residential and on-post well and surface water sampling, a dye trace study (pending funding), and residential well research to aid in monitoring groundwater contamination.

8. Area B Water Levels

Groundwater elevations have gained up to thirty feet in the west (near the landfill) and are generally decreasing to the east to around five feet above the November 2002 levels.

Upon inquiry, Mr. Meyer advised that a small sinkhole, near the former skeet range in Area B, was alleviated by filling and mounding the area with clay to inhibit collecting water.

9. Area C Update

After funding requirement delays, finalization of the draft remedial investigative report of the soils and groundwater is scheduled for completion during the summer/fall of 2003.

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10. Open Comments

Colonel Ball took the opportunity to advise everyone of the major projects of Fort Detrick. Currently, an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) for a National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Disease integrated research facility, to be located adjacent to USAMRIID, is being conducted. A groundbreaking for a new post exchange is eminent, as well as construction of three new barracks and a dining facility. Funding for an indoor pool extension off the gymnasium is also being explored. Additionally, a major renovation of the main gate will facilitate better road access. The community will see these projects come to fruition within the next twelve months.

11. Date/Agenda Items for Next Meeting

RAB meetings are held bimonthly on the second Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, August 13, 2003, at 7:30 p.m., at Fort Detrick.

12. Meeting Closing

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Reviewed by:

//s//

Donald F. Archibald
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
Co-Chairman

Approved/Disapproved

//s//

John E. Ball
Colonel, US Army
Deputy Installation Commander

Enclosure:

1. Fort Detrick Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study

DISTRIBUTION:

Each RAB Member (w/o enclosure)

Each Meeting Attendee (w/o enclosure)